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A Continuation of the Study of the Myxomycetes in the Vicinity of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

By JEAN MORROW AND KEITH SHAVER

This study of the Myxomycetes is a continuation of the study¹ started last year at Iowa Wesleyan College.

Three of the slime molds reported this year, were grown in a moist chamber where the sporangia were unmolested and therefore excellent material for study. The other slime molds were collected from the decaying wood and leaves in shady and moist places. The specimens were stored in properly labeled match boxes. The microscope slides of glycerine mounts of the capillitium and spores were labeled and kept for reference.

The Myxomycetes reported this year are as follows:

1. *Arcyria nutans* (Bull) Grev. This was found on dead wood, the capillitium expanded into a drooping column. The branching of the threads and distribution of the half rings on the threads are shown in MacBride and Martin, Fig. 453-5, plate XVII. The spores measure 6-8u. Distribution is reported as common throughout North America.

2. *Hemitrichia stipitata* (Massee) Machr. This was found on dead wood in the moist chamber. According to some authors this species is subject to seasonal variation. The sporangia are ochraceous and stalked. The spores measure 9u. Distribution is reported to be common and abundant throughout North America.

3. *Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa* (Muell) Macbr. This was found on rotten wood in a moist chamber. The sporophores and spores are white. The spores measure 9-10u. The distribution is common.

4. *Cribraria dictydioides* Cooke and Balf. This was found on rotten wood in a moist chamber. The cup margin of the sporangia is toothed, the sporangia are gregarious, grey brown and stalked. The spores measure 5u. The distribution is abundant throughout North America.

5. *Trichia varia* Pers. The sporangia are crowded and sessile. The elaters have two irregular spirals and the spores measure 12u. The distribution is very common.

Besides the following keys, a reference collection, kindly given by G. W. Martin was used for classification. MacBride and Martin was used as authority.

Keys used: 1. Hagelstein, Robert, *The Myxomycetes of North America*, (1944). Published by the author: New York.

2. Greene, H. C., *Wisconsin Myxomycetes*, (1932). Trans. of the Wisc. Acad. of Sci., Arts & Ltrs., Vol. 27, pp. 141-182

¹ Last year Loisjean Luchini and Jean Morrow reported *Lycogala epidendrum* (Buxb.) Fries, *Oligonema schweinitzii* (Nitens) (Lib.) Rost., *Hemitrichia vesparium* (Batsch) Macbr., *Trichia favoginea* (Batsch) Pers.

3. MacBride, Thomas, *The North American Slime-Moulds*, (1922). MacMillan Co., New York.
4. MacBride & Martin, *The Myxomycetes*, (1934). MacMillan Co., New York.

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